

UNCLASSIFIED

INTERNAL USE ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

SP/CH/E

EXTENSION

NO.

TP
SX - 4100

DATE

Feb 64

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. SP/CH/E

2.

3. SP/OSC/13c

4. SP/D/US

5. RIO/CH/E

6. RIO/M/13

7.

8.

9. SP/CH/E

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 1020

HAZ WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

DATE 2007

MICROFILMED

MAR 29 1971

DOC. MICRO SER.

L-51 File CH/E
into 74-124-29/3
from 74-124-29/3
11/68

Removed from Project A-R-DYNAMIC
CS Classification: 74-124-29/3
JOB # 74-567/12
Box 28 Fldg 1

ABSTRACT	X	INDEX
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RIO/RPC

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FORM
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610 USE PREVIOUS
EDITIONS

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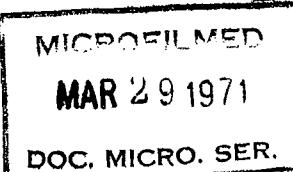
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Subject : SOBKOV, Vadym Mykolaevych
Ukrainian writer, Kiev, UkrSSR
Occupation : WRITER
Cit : USSR

Source : December 29
Soviet writer

Date : 11 Feb 1964



MAR 29 1971
Ukrainian writer
Brow hair combed back
Son of writer. Born in Kiev
Married in Feb 1964
Wife is also a writer
Lives in New York
Soviet writer

SX-5100

11 Feb 64

1. Subject is a known Ukrainian writer from Kiev, aged 52 (born 1912 in Moscow), 5'10, round face, brown hair combed back, on crutches (his left leg was amputated after he was wounded in Berlin, Germany on 23 April 1945), party-member, very tactful, pleasant, speaks some English, seems to be an intelligent honest man. Dressed very modestly but with taste.

In New York he stayed from 3 to 7 Feb 1964 in the hotel TUDOR, Room 1233 (1st Ave and 42nd St.) Subject arrived here as a tourist because US-authorities refused to admit his group as members - delegates to peace-movement. But in practice they ^{met} as such with American members of peace-movement.

Subject's father was a Rail Road officer. 1930 -34 Subject studied in KHARKOV while working at the same time. During the war he was employed with front-press and was wounded in April 1945. After recuperation he stayed for some time as convalescent in Eastern Germany and was employed with Soviet Military Administration. Hence his book "Zaporuka Myru" (The Guarantee of Peace) dealing about German questions. When Source mentioned that he read this book Subject replied that it was " too political and ~~too much~~ actually void of literature..."

This was Subject's second visit to the States. First time he was here in 1961.

Subject did not know about "Suchasnist" and did not see it in Kiev.

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2. On 3 Feb 1964 at 9.30 hrs Source phoned Ukrainian Mission in New York (LE 5 - 3418) and asked for Subject. The receptionist answered that he probably had already left but anyway she will check again. She asked Source to call her at 16.00 hrs same day. Then Source phoned her again he was told that Subject will wait for him next day at 17.00 hrs at the Ukrainian Mission.

On 4 Feb 1964 at 16.00 hrs Source tried to get in contact with Subject by phone in order to induce him to meet outside the Mission. Subject was not, however, at the Mission and Source went there at 17.00 hrs .

There were several persons beside receptionist at the Mission, among them two men who looked like American journalists. One of them was about 45 years old, 5'7, wore bright brown coat, no glasses, of normal built, with camera. The other one was approx. 35, 5'8, 180 lb and was just talking in English to the receptionist. Both seemed to be intensively observing Source and others; and then he saw them again, outside the Mission . They stood on the corner of 67th and 3rd Ave and stared at Source.

Beside the two "American journalists" Source saw inside the Mission also a man dressed like a worker, talking in English, aged 40, 5'9-5'10, 175 lb, round face, - who asked for Mr STEPANOV and was then received by the latter. STEPANOV - approx. 35-40, 5'9, 175-180 lb, round rough face. Spoke English with heavy Russian accent.

When Source asked in Ukrainian for Subject, the receptionist (a man) replied that he did not understand Ukrainian and Source had to explain again whom he wanted. Then the receptionist phoned somewhere and soon came TSURKAN, Valeri. The latter addressed Source in funny Ukrainian with plenty of Polishisms, and explained that he just talked on telephone to Subject and the latter asked him to excuse himself for being unable to keep the appointment, since he had an urgent conference or meeting to attend. He promised, however, to phone Source to-morrow himself and TSURKAN asked where Source could be reached. He also added that he will see Subject

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now at the same meeting. Source gave him his office telephone.

On 5 Feb 1964 at 14.30 hrs a girl identifying herself as "Ukrainian Mission" phoned Source and told him he can reach Subject ~~at~~ the number YU 6 - 8800, ext. 1233 and fix an appointment himself. She claimed to have forgotten the name of the hotel. Later it turned out to be Tudor.

Source phoned the given number at 16.40 and spoke to Subject. They ~~agreed~~ agreed that Source will phone Subject to-morrow at 08.30 hrs at his hotel and there they will meet. Subject was very apologetic for being unable to see Source to-night.

On 6 Feb 1964 at 08.30 Source phoned Subject and they met at 9.00 hrs in the coffee shop at the hotel TUDOR.

Subject sat alone at the table having his breakfast. At the next table parallel to Subject's sat two men and one girl from the Soviet Mission. After a while one of the men left. At 9.45 the other man and the girl whom Subject described later on as ^{his} interpreter from the Mission, left too. Subject did not introduce Source to them.

The talk lasted from 09.00 to 10.00 hrs. Two times Subject asked Source whether he wanted to move to another table but Source thought they could stay here. In Source's view they were far enough from the other table, and the other Sovs could not hear them properly, anyway.

3. At the outset Source explained that he was on the board of the Round Table Club and ^a journalist but spoke to Subject as a private person, a Ukrainian independent, and American citizen. He wanted to talk about the appeal of Ukrainian writers and artists from Kiev to Ukrainian emigration on occasion of forthcoming celebrations of Shevchenko anniversary in Washington, D.C. in June 1964. Above all he wanted to tell Subject his own opinion on eventual participation of Ukrainians from Kiev in those celebrations and added that there were many people who thought the same way. Those people

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would welcome Ukrainian cultural creators from the Ukraine provided they would come with pure intent and heart and would not mind to stand under Ukrainian national colors. Source stressed the all-Ukrainian aspect of Shevchenko celebrations and hinted that they (celebrations) might turn out eventually conducive to further contacts between the Ukrainian people and the emigration. He mentioned as an example eventual scientific conference of Ukrainian scholars from the Ukraine and abroad. Then he dwelt upon cultural exchange between Ukrainians in the Ukraine and abroad in general, asked why there were so few Ukrainian choruses, films, and other artistic groups sent to this and other Western countries, why so few Ukrainian writers came abroad and even those who went abroad were very difficult to be met.

Subject said that he also was talking as a private person but he will convey everything to the Union of Ukrainian Writers in Kiev and will discuss with them all these questions. He asked whether he could make notes because he did not want to miss anything.

Though Subject did not sign the appeal personally he is all for participation of his colleagues in Shevchenko celebrations, too, and was glad to hear that not all emigrants were against it. Standing under Ukrainian nationalist colors he would not regard to be an impediment to their coming to Washington, D.C. because this was a matter of courtesy only. As to scientific Shevchenko conference he could not commit himself and asked if there were such scholars abroad. Source mentioned Shevelov, Zajtsev, Tchyzhevskij, Rudnytskyi. Subject replied that he will talk about it in Kiev.

Subject wants to know whether Shevchenko Committee had sufficient funds and hinted that his colleagues in Kiev would probably gladly help financially if necessary. He was very happy Ukrainian emigrants abroad themselves were able to raise such huge funds.

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When source mentioned that some Ukrainian literary men abroad might answer positively the appeal from Kiev Subject remarked that the sooner it happened the better. Jokingly he added; "Anyway don't send it after the celebrations".

Source thought that along the same line prior to celebrations some two or three Ukrainian writers should come eventually to this country and in private talks try to "prepare their eventual participation". Subject replied that he will convey it to his colleagues in Kiev.

4. Subject was in favor of cultural contacts between the Ukraine and the emigration. He seemed to be genuinely indignant at the showing "Lesia Ukrainka" -film in the States in Russian and justified emigration's apprehension about such "cases". Moreover that "Lesia Ukrainka" was in Ukrainian and there were also quite a few other excellent Ukrainian films like for instance recently produced "Nazar Stodola".

He also was all for sending more Ukrainian artistic groups , writers and others abroad.

5. Source suggested that in the future instead of asking for Ukrainian writers and artists from the Ukraine at the Mission they should themselves contact first Ukrainians abroad. Thus, for example, when someone comes from Kiev to New York he could easily get to the Public Library at 5th Ave and 42nd St and tell there ILNYTSKY, deputy-chief of Slavonic Dept that he or they were now in the city.

Subject did not reply to this suggestion and only said that recently HALYSHKO was supposed to come to New York but became ill (there was something wrong with his heart) and had to postpone his trip.

PIDSUKHA

6. Instead of taking books with him for HALYSHKO subject suggested

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to send them to him c/o Union of Ukrainian Writers in Kiev. It was the ~~sub~~ rest way they will be delivered. Also all the other correspondence or sendings of books and literature should be addressed to Subject and his colleagues c/o Union of Ukrainian Writers in Kiev.

7. When Source went to the back to get books ("Panorama..." and "Holubosynia Dal") for Subject, the Soviet girl approached Subject and on his return Source overheard her saying: " You can take the books but you will have to hand them over to us".

8. When Source referring to the problem of youth all over the world mentioned the Soviet youth as well, Subject replied that their own (Soviet) difficulties with the youth had been somewhat exaggerated abroad and some of their own people helped in it.

9. Source mentioned that there were also other people in New York who wouldn't mind meeting Subject and who knew him still from the Ukraine. He mentioned Prof KOSTIUK who spoke at one time with FIDSUKHA. Subject ~~regretted~~ regretted he was unable to meet him though actually he could not remember him from KHARKOV.

10. At 10.00 hrs Subject excused himself for having to go now to his "official business", explained that "nachalstvo" was pushing him around and then added : "A, what kind of nachalstvo", just ordinary secretary or interpreter from the Mission..." He accompanied Source outside where he expected a car to pick him up. He indicated that he will have to go now to the Mission.

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